

City of Fort Smith, Arkansas  
Minutes of the Streets, Bridges and Associated Drainage  
Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) Advisory Committee Meeting  
November 30, 2017

A meeting of the Streets, Bridges and Associated Drainage Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Advisory Committee was called to order at 12:00 p.m. on November 30, 2017, in the Planning Conference Room #326 of the City by Aaron St. Amant.

Committee members present:

Tiffinee Baker – Ward 2  
Aaron St. Amant – Ward 3 (Chairman)  
Robert Brown – Ward 3  
David Armbruster – Ward 3  
Nathaniel Deason – Ward 4

Committee members absent:

Stan Vlademar – Ward 1  
Philip Rosar – Ward 4

City Staff Present:

Stan Snodgrass, Director of Engineering  
Jennifer Stevens, Accounting Technician  
Matt Meeker, Interim Director of Operations

Minutes of the September 28, 2017 Meeting

Robert Brown had questions on the minutes from the September 28, 2017 meeting as he was unable to attend that meeting. In reference to replacement of the traffic signal poles on the previously approved CIP plan, he asked if we could have the poles tested and re-use them to save money. Matt Meeker and Stan Snodgrass stated that it would not be safe to do that and there are wires and conduit that go underground that also have to be replaced. Stan noted that these signal poles are approaching 30 years of service and Matt noted that they do not meet the current structural design standards. Stan also noted a temporary traffic signal pole would have to be installed to maintain the intersection while the pole was tested.

David Armbruster questioned the allocation of the CIP funds to other departments and stated that he thought those amounts seem high. Robert Brown also does not agree with the allocation breakdown to the different departments. Stan noted that the allocation study was completed by the Przybysz Accounting firm and that information has been shared with the Board of Directors.

Tiffinee Baker made the motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting and Nathaniel Deason seconded the motion. The minutes were approved 5 in favor and 0 opposed.

#### New Business:

Stan Snodgrass stated that he wanted to get input from the committee members in regards to concrete ditches and also if curb and gutter should be installed on every street in Fort Smith when such street is resurfaced.

Stan noted that there has been a couple of concerns expressed that the concrete ditches were ugly and that we should install concrete piping even though it would be a very significant cost increase. Stan presented before / after pictures that showed the improvements the city has completed in the area of South 74<sup>th</sup> Street & also on Burnham Road and Euper Lane. Stan also noted that numerous factors (offsite drainage, significant utility relocation, scour holes with ponding water, undermining at edge of the street, erosion issues, maintenance of rip rap channels, cost) are considered when concrete ditch pavement is installed. Stan noted that the before / after pictures and factors considered for the installation of concrete ditch paving would be presented to the Board of Directors at the December 12 study session.

Robert Brown stated that the drainage fix would be that which would be necessary to fix the problem and would depend up the area. Matt Meeker stated that Burnham Road and Euper Lane has a house that floods and the home owner asked for the concrete ditch and is happy with the repairs.

The consensus from the committee was there were no aesthetic issues with the concrete channels and they were definitely an improvement over the existing rip rap channel. The committee also was not in favor of installing curb / gutter on all streets when it is resurfaced. David Armbruster noted that the city does not have funds to expend for this type of work given all the other areas of concern.

Robert Brown asked if we could add a center turning lane at the main driveway to Walmart as part of the upcoming South 24<sup>th</sup> Street resurfacing project. Stan Snodgrass stated he has observed very little traffic issues at this location but would have it rechecked.

David Armbruster asked Matt Meeker about the sidewalk repairs. Matt Meeker said they are currently working various sidewalk repair areas and that he would be happy to meet with him one on one in the office to discuss further details.

Robert Brown stated that he had met with Ivy Owen of the Fort Chaffee Redevelopment Area (FCRA). Robert Brown stated that there will be a lot of streets built in the FCRA and he believes an infrastructure or impact fee should be implemented in this area. Matt Meeker said that would be up to the Board of Directors to decide. David Armbruster stated that the City has taken enough responsibility already and should not be responsible

for developing the new streets out there in the Chaffee Crossing Area. Stan Snodgrass stated that the Board of Directors has previously committed to maintain public streets located in the FCRA.

#### May Branch / Town Branch Drainage Project:

Stan Snodgrass stated that he talked to Travis Scott with FTN Associates about their report and it showing a large amount of cost. We should be getting information from them in the next couple of months. Robert Brown asked if we were getting any money or sharing the cost with the Corps of Engineers. Stan Snodgrass stated no as it does not meet their cost feasibility criteria for an economically justified project.

#### Pavement Design Standards

Stan Snodgrass stated there was nothing new to discuss at this time.

#### Citizen's Forum:

None

The next meeting will be February 22, 2017 at 12:00 p.m. in the Planning Conference Room #326.

With no further discussion or business, a motion to adjourn was made by David Armbruster and seconded by Tiffinee Baker at 1:10 p.m. All were in favor with none opposed.